(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, whether such a study would be instituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Adulteration in food stuffs is checked and regulated in the country under the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules, 1955. The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act has been amended thrice so far, in 1964, 1976 and 1986 to plug the loop-holes and make the law more stringent and also to empower the recognized consumer organizations to play active role in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Progamme.

The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and the rules made there-under provide for adequte provisions to check and curb the adulteration and misbranding of food articles. The Act provides for strict penal provisions against the offenders.

Standards of quality have been laid down under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 for more than 270 articles of food. Most of the rules and regulations laid down under these rules are in conformity with the guidelines laid down by the Codex Alimentarious Commission, an International body of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and World Health Organisation (WHO) of the United Nations.

Adulteration in milk products

360. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidence of food adulteration, particularly involving milk products, is taking place rampantly unhindered across the nation;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of cases detected during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that the existing laws are not stringent enough to totally eliminate food adulteration in the country;

(d) if so, whether Government are considering to amend the laws so as to incorporate severe penal action, including death penalty, against the culprits; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) As per the information made available by various Food (Health) Authorities of State/Union Territories responsible for implementing the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954 in their respective States/UTs, the average percentage of adulteration in milk product during the years 2001 to 2003 is 16.7%.

(b) The details of number of food samples of milk products examined and found adulterated during the years 2001 to 2003 (State-wise) is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) At present, the provisions of Section 16 of the PFA Act, 1954 prescribe penalty for violation of any of the provisions of Act/Rules. It varies from minimum imprisonment of six months to life imprisonment depending upon the nature of offences.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal under consideration to include death penalty in the present PFA Act, 1954.

Statement

State-wise break-up of samples of milk products examined and found adulterated for the years 2001-2003

Sl. No	Name of States/UTs	2001		2002		2003	
		Examined	Adulterated	Examined	Adulterated	Examined	Adulterated
1.	Andhra Pradesh	282	70	270	55	257	32
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	Nil	3	Nil	7	Nil
3.	Assam	49	16	61	9	83	8
4.	Bihar	176	63	NA	NA	77	27
5.	Goa	22	Nil	28	7	14	Nil
6.	Gujarat	NA	NA	NA	NA	966	89
7.	Haryana	236	57	222	34	242	60
8.	Himachal Pradesh	18	8	11	3	85	26
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	45	18	19	8	40	6
10.	Karnataka	57	20	24	7	35	13

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	2001		2002		2003	
		Examined	Adulterated	Examined	Adulterated	Examined	Adulterated
11.	Kerala	425	16	357	19	816	25
12.	Madhya Pradesh	367	95	378	95	231	34
13.	Maharashtra	686	127	691	87	544	98
14.	Manipur	5	Nil	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
15.	Meghalaya	2	Nil	3	Nil	5	Nil
16.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	NA	NA
17.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	NA	NA	12	3
18.	Orissa	29	6	14	5	NA	NA
19.	Punjab	118	24	137	47	171	40
20.	Rajasthan	383	115	446	93	417	118
21.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	NA	NA	Nil	Nil
22.	Tamil Nadu	53	17	106	50	NA	NA
23.	Tripura	12	Nil	28	1	19	Nil
24.	Uttar Pradesh*	1872	196	1853	307	1686	304
25.	West Bengal	82	7	54	10	42	7
26.	A & N Islands	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
27.	Chandigarh	56	11	61	9	15	6
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	Daman & Diu	2	Nil	1	Nil	2	Nil
30.	Delhi	230	32	214	26	200	27
31.	Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	NA	NA
32.	Pondicherry	2	Nil	7	Nil	5	Nil
33.	Chhattisgarh	67	9	67	4	66	15
34.	Jharkhand	40	4	NA	NA	24	13
35.	Uttaranchal	41	1	39	Nil	55	8
	TOTAL:	5367	913	5062	874	6117	959

N.A.:—Information not made available by the concerned States/UTs.